

C L A I M S

1. A device for filling liquid or pasty products having lumpy fractions and free flowing, pourable lumpy products, comprising a storage container, means for opening or closing the outlet of the storage container and a gravity tube (1) arranged underneath the storage container, wherein the gravity tube (1) has at least one flexible side wall (2) and that means for mechanically pressing-in the at least one side wall (2) of the gravity tube (1) are provided, characterised in that the means for mechanically pressing-in the side wall (2) of the gravity tube (1) have rotatable elements (4) for deforming the cross-section of the gravity tube and that the elements (4) are driven rotatably about an axis of rotation (3) running substantially parallel to the gravity tube (1).
2. The device according to claim 1, characterised in that the gravity tube (1) has a polygonal cross-section, that each flexible side wall (2) is constructed as deformable and that separate means for mechanical pressing-in are provided for each side wall (2).

3. The device according to claim 1,
characterised in that the gravity tube has a
substantially round cross-section and that the elements
for mechanically pressing in the side wall of the gravity
tube are distributed uniformly over the circumference
of the gravity tube.
4. The device according to claim 3,
characterised in that the elements for mechanically
pressing in the side wall of the gravity tube are
arranged rotatably about the axis of the gravity tube.
5. The device according to any one of claims 1 to 4,
characterised in that the elements for mechanically
pressing in the side wall (2) of the gravity tube (1)
are arranged so that they can be displaced in the axial
direction.
6. The device according to any one of claims 1 to 5,
characterised in that the elements are constructed as
rollers (4).
7. The device according to any one of claims 1 to 5,
characterised in that the elements are constructed as
cams.
8. A method for filling liquid or pasty products having
lumpy fractions and free flowing, pourable lumpy
products by means of the device according to any one of
claims 1 to 13,
characterised in that the means for mechanically
pressing in the side wall of the gravity tube

intermittently deform the flexible side wall of the gravity tube inwards according to a specified scheme.

9. The method according to claim 8,
characterised in that the deformation of the side wall of the gravity tube takes place simultaneously.
10. The method according to claim 8,
characterised in that the deformation of the side wall of the gravity tube takes place staggered in time.
11. The method according to any one of claims 8 to 10,
characterised in that the means for pressing in the side wall of the gravity tube act uniformly over the entire circumference on the side wall of the gravity tube.